

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 825**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Blakeslee**

February 26, 2009

An act to amend Section 9011 of the Fish and Game Code, relating to commercial fishing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 825, as introduced, Blakeslee. Dungeness crab traps.

Existing law regulates the Dungeness crab fishery. Existing law sets forth the qualifications for a Dungeness crab vessel permit, and provides that no person shall use a vessel to take, possess, or land Dungeness crab for commercial purposes without a Dungeness crab vessel permit. Existing law regulates the size and features of traps that may be used to take Dungeness crab.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to that trap provision.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 9011 of the Fish and Game Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 9011. (a) (1) Subject to Article 6 (commencing with Section
- 4 8275) of Chapter 2, ~~dungeness~~ *Dungeness* crab, as defined in
- 5 Section 8275, may be taken with ~~dungeness~~ *Dungeness* crab traps.
- 6 (2) A ~~dungeness~~ *Dungeness* crab trap may have any number of
- 7 openings of any size. However, every ~~dungeness~~ *Dungeness* crab

1 trap shall have at least two rigid circular openings of not less than  
2  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches, inside diameter, on the top or side of the trap. If both  
3 of the openings are located on the side of the trap, at least one of  
4 the openings shall be located so that at least one-half of the opening  
5 is in the upper half of the trap.

6 (3) Any rock crab taken with a crab trap used pursuant to this  
7 subdivision to take ~~dungeness~~ *Dungeness* crab shall be immediately  
8 returned to the waters from which it was taken. No person shall  
9 possess rock crab aboard any vessel when the vessel is being used  
10 to take ~~dungeness~~ *Dungeness* crab.

11 (b) (1) Subject to Article 6 (commencing with Section 8275)  
12 of Chapter 2, rock crab, as defined in Section 8275, may be taken  
13 with rock crab traps.

14 (2) A rock crab trap may have any number of openings of any  
15 size. However, a rock crab trap constructed of wire mesh with an  
16 inside mesh measurement of not less than  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inches by  $3\frac{7}{8}$  inches,  
17 with the  $3\frac{7}{8}$  inch measurement parallel to the floor, shall have at  
18 least one rigid circular opening of not less than  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches, inside  
19 diameter, located on any outside wall of the rearmost chamber of  
20 the crab trap and shall be located so that at least one-half of the  
21 opening is in the upper half of the trap. Rock crab traps constructed  
22 of other material shall have at least two rigid circular openings of  
23 not less than  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches, inside diameter, on the top or side of the  
24 rearmost chamber of the trap. If both of the openings are located  
25 on the side of the trap, at least one of the openings shall be located  
26 so that at least one-half of the opening is in the upper half of the  
27 trap. No rigid circular opening, as required, shall extend more  
28 than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch beyond the plane of the wall side or top of the trap in  
29 which it is located, and it shall be clearly accessible to any crab  
30 which may be in the trap.

31 (3) No person shall possess any lobster aboard a vessel while  
32 the vessel is being used pursuant to this subdivision to take rock  
33 crab. Any ~~dungeness~~ *Dungeness* crab taken with a crab trap used  
34 pursuant to this subdivision to take rock crab shall be immediately  
35 returned to the waters from which it was taken. No person shall  
36 possess ~~dungeness~~ *Dungeness* crab aboard any vessel when the  
37 vessel is being used to take rock crab.